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TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP

August 27, 2010

PURPOSE AND VISION STATEMENT AND PROPOSAL TO THE 2011 LEGISLATURE

The Transportation Partnership

Our state's future economic health and livability is fundamentally linked to an efficient transportation infrastructure. The ability to move people and goods through all modes of transportation must be preserved and enhanced if our state is to realistically compete for jobs. We have a tremendous opportunity in the 2011 legislative session and beyond to continue the progress we've made in recent years toward ensuring the state's economic and transportation needs are met. The Partnership is working to ensure we seize this great opportunity.

Who We Are

The Transportation Partnership is a coalition of business, labor, local government and environmental representatives from around the state who are committed to advocating for a successful comprehensive solution to our transportation challenges. We are focusing on achieving near-term action in the 2011 legislative session.

Our Core Principles

- Build a consensus for a balanced transportation package among business, labor, environmental and elected leaders.
- Support an integrated approach that recognizes the need for an effective, connected, multi-modal investment strategy, yet accounts for balance among roads, ferries, rail, highways, non-motorized travel and mass transit.
- Create jobs and ensure a proper balance between private sector and public sector jobs, to generate economic vitality.
- Support new funding for Department of Transportation, cities and counties to reduce impacts of storm-water pollution.
- Fund the removal of roadway fish barriers at the state and local level.
- Advocate for a 21st Century Sustainable Transportation System that reduces transportation emissions.
- Support increased movement of people and goods with an appropriate balance among transportation modes that reflects the diversity across the state.
- Prioritize at risk and vulnerable facilities for funding and completion.
- Include projects that improve freight mobility in integrated transportation plans.
- Support additional resources including state funds and local options to cities, counties, regional and state jurisdictions.
- Invest in more efficient transportation systems management strategies, HOV lanes and safety improvements to alleviate congestion and promote safety
- Preserve our current assets such as state highways and ferries, county roads, city streets and rail in order to avoid higher costs and unsafe conditions in the future.
- Support viable local and regional tax options for transit and provide additional state sources to maintain and expand transit services.
- Support healthy, sustainable communities and high capacity transit and transit oriented development.
- Advocate for funding and policies that increase the importance of active transportation in the state's transportation system, including bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety.

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Partnership Members

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TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP

- Invest in efficiencies by expanding the state's Commute Trip Reduction, Telework, Vanpool, Carpool, and Growth and Transportation Efficiency Center programs.
- Ensure that new transportation investments are accompanied by corresponding efficiency and accountability requirements.
- Invest in a 21st century rail system that will efficiently, reliably, and quickly deliver people and goods to points throughout Washington State and beyond.

Our Perspective

- Progress has been made
 - o The Nickel Gas Tax increase of 2003 and the Transportation Partnership Act of 2005 were critical steps in the right direction.
 - o WSDOT has delivered 91% of the projects funded by these packages on time, and 81% were delivered on budget.
 - o Several billion dollars-worth of roads and transit projects are currently under construction and providing good jobs when we need them most.
 - o Local transit improvements across the state are moving forward
 - Washington State's transit, road, rail, and bridge projects have done well when competing against other states for federal funding.

• The need is still great

- o The state population is expected to grow by over 2.5 million people by 2030.
- Congestion costs the State of Washington \$2 billion annually according to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation.
- Many regionally significant roads and transit projects around the state remain unfunded.
- o Preservation of our existing system and 'at-risk' priority projects lack sufficient funding.
- The recession has slowed the pace of construction and the jobs it creates, undermined the tax base of cities, counties and transit organizations, increased preservation backlogs and threatened ongoing service.

Our Objectives

- 1. We are working for a statewide increase in revenue sources to finance transportation investments that accelerate our state's economic recovery, create jobs, address public safety issues, preserve our current assets, increase our transportation efficiency, improve our rail connectivity, and provide traffic relief and expansion of transit, bike and pedestrian mobility while reducing impacts on the environment.
- 2. We support legislative changes that provide additional financing tools to transit agencies.
- 3. We support new funding for the Department of Transportation, cities and counties to reduce the impact of stormwater runoff pollution and alleviate fish passage.

Our Commitment

 We are committed to working with local, regional, and state leadership during the 2011 legislative session and beyond to ensure an adequate investment in our transportation infrastructure.

For more information or to be added to the Partnership's mailing list, please contact Charles Knutson, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce at charlesk@seattlechamber.com or 206.389.7295